

Application No. 10/075,404

Response to Notice and Corrected Amendment and Reply dated September 25, 2006

In Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment Dated September 1, 2006

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE  
SEP 25 2006

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) In a capillary electrophoresis method in which analyte species are separated by differential electrophoretic migration through a fluid separation medium under the influence of a constant run field, an improvement for reducing peak broadening caused when the constant run field is established comprising:

establishing the constant run field at a ramp rate no greater than about 5 V/cm-s;

wherein the fluid separation medium is a buffered solution containing a non-crosslinked polymer and the analyte species are nucleic acid.

24. (Currently amended) In a capillary electrophoresis method in which analyte species are separated by differential electrophoretic migration through a fluid separation medium under the influence of a constant run field, an improvement for reducing peak broadening caused when the constant run field is established comprising:

establishing the constant run field at a ramp rate no greater than about 5 V/cm-s;

wherein the analyte species are nucleic acid.

Application No. 10/075,404

Response to Notice and Corrected Amendment and Reply dated September 25, 2006

In Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment Dated September 1, 2006

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the run field ranges from about 50 V/cm to about 3,000 V/cm.
26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the run field ranges between about 80 V/cm and 500 V/cm.
27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the run field is established over a period of at least about 10 seconds.
28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the run field is established over a period ranging from about 20 seconds to about 4,000 seconds.
29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the ramp rate ranges from about 0.1 V/cm-s to about 1.0 V/cm-s.
30. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein peak broadening associated with establishment of a run field is reduced at least about 10% compared to that found when ~~an electric~~ the run field is established not using a ramp rate is not used.
31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein peak broadening is reduced at least about 25%.

Application No. 10/075,404

Response to Notice and Corrected Amendment and Reply dated September 25, 2006

In Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment Dated September 1, 2006

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein peak broadening is reduced at least about 40%.
33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the run field ranges from about 50 V/cm to about 3,000 V/cm.
34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the run field ranges between about 80 V/cm and 500 V/cm.
35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the run field is established over a period of at least about 10 seconds.
36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the run field is established over a period ranging from about 20 seconds to about 4,000 seconds.
37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the ramp rate ranges from about 0.1 V/cm-s to about 1.0 V/cm-s.
38. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein peak broadening associated with establishment of a run field is reduced at least about 10% compared to that found when an electric the run field is established not using a ramp rate is not used.

Application No. 10/075,404

Response to Notice and Corrected Amendment and Reply dated September 25, 2006

In Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment Dated September 1, 2006

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein peak broadening is reduced at least about 25%.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 39, wherein peak broadening is reduced at least about 40%.